

Please replace the paragraph at page 34, lines 8 through 28 with the following paragraph:

The genome-wide location of epitope-tagged Ste12p before and after pheromone treatment was investigated in three independent experiments. The set of genes whose promoter regions are most likely to be bound by Ste 12 by the analysis criteria (p-value < 0.005) described herein is listed in Figures 7A-7C; the upper panel shows genes whose expression is induced by alpha factor, whereas the lower panel shows genes whose expression is not significantly induced by alpha factor. Of the genes that are induced by alpha factor and are bound by Ste12, 11 are known to participate in various steps of the mating process (FIG2, AFR1, GIC2, STE12, KAR5, FUS1, AGA1, FUS3, CIK1, FAR1, FIG1) (Figure 8). FUS3 and STE12 encode components of the signal transduction pathway involved in the response to pheromone (Madhani *et al.*, *Trends Genet.*, 14:151 (1999)); AFR1 and GIC2 are required for the formation of mating projections (Konopka *et al.*, *Mol. Cell Biol.*, 13:6876 (1993); Brown *et al.*, *Genes Dev.*, 11:2972 (1997); Chen *et al.*, *Genes Dev.*, 11:2998 (1997)); FIG2, AGA1, FIG1 and FUS1 are involved in cell fusion (Erdman *et al.*, *J. Cell Biol.*, 140:461 (1999); Roy *et al.*, *Mol. Cell Biol.*, 11:4196 (1991); Truehart *et al.*, *Mol. Cell Biol.*, 7:2316 (1987); McCaffrey *et al.*, *Mol. Cell Biol.*, 7:2680 (1987)); and CIK1 and KAR5 are required for nuclear fusion (Marsh, L. and Rose, M.D. in *The Molecular and Cellular Biology of the Yeast Saccharomyces*, J.R. Pringle, J.R. Broach, E.W. Jones, Eds. (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, 1997), vol. 3, pp. 827-888). Furthermore, FUS3 and FAR1 are required for pheromone-induced cell cycle arrest (Chang *et al.*, *Cell*, 63:999 (1990); Fujimura, *Curr. Genet.*, 18:395 (1990)).

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii).

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (978) 341-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By   
Brian P. Turano  
Registration No. 50,734  
Telephone: (978) 341-0036  
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

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